

Letter and enclosure from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, February 15, 1901

DICTATED. Volta Bureau, February 15, 1901. Dear Mabel: —

Cannot seem to find time to write all I want to say about matters in which you are interested. I have determined today to steal a little time from census matters to acknowledge receipt of your FINE letter from London describing the Queen's funeral, and to give you a few jottings from my note book

I cabled you about the death of Prof. Salisbury, cousin Evelyn's husband. Elisha Gray is dead. Dr. Busey was buried yesterday.

The Wednesday evenings at Bert's house have been very successful. Last Wednesday A meeting was held at Mrs. Hearst's house of four Committees representing (1) the Agricultural Colleges of the U. S. (2) The National Educational Association and Universities and Colleges of the U. S. (3) The Washington Academy of Sciences (4) The George Washington Memorial Association — to try and arrange a common plan to be pushed in Congress in pursuance of the Resolution of the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution re-commending a Bureau of Research in the Government Departments.

I suggested the conference, and the Committee of Agricultural Colleges at once took the matter up and invited the other bodies named to confer with them through appropriate committees. As I am a Regent of the Smithsonian Institution, and a member of the Executive Committee, I thought it best not to be present myself. I have not yet heard the result of the conference.

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Prof. Langley and I dined with Elsie and Bert Wednesday evening and Prof. Langley took part in the gentlemen's meeting afterwards at the Everett..

I mailed you this morning another budget of "Thoughts" concerning the Census, and will close now with a few words to Daisy that she may see that I have not forgotten her birthday. I also want to give her five minutes on the subject of water condensation, in reply to her last note.

Enclosed please find "A few jokes for Daidumsan". Everybody is well.

Reception last night at my father's house for Elsie and Bert. By the by you left behind you an article of the following description: A gold pin or brooch, consisting of a circle of oak leaves in black enamel, with pearls between, a circle of alternate leaves and pearls. What shall be done with it.

By the did you carry out your intention of buying 25 [???][???][???][???][???][???][???]
[???][???] 3 [???][???][???][???][???][???][???][???] 3 [???][???][???][???]? With love to
your mother, Daisy, and a whole heart-ful for yourself

Your loving husband Alec. Mr s. A. Graham Bell 6 rue Longchamp Paris, France via
England

1901, February 15. Daidums Birthday. At V. B. A FEW JOKES FOR DAIDUMSAN.

The three states of matrimony as described by a school boy. Where a man marries several wives, that is "polygamy"; where a woman has several husbands, that is "polyandry"; and where a man has only one wife, that is "Monotony"

If you were to examine a dog's lungs by the X rays, what would you see?

The seat of his pants.

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A visitor at Atlantic City to his friend: —

“That girl is one of the daughters of the Revolution”.

“Why, she is a negress, how can that be?”

“Oh, her father is the proprietor of the Merry-go-round”.

A lady had been brought near to death's door by typhoid fever, and her little nephew admitted to the room was much amused at her changed appearance.

“Oh, Auntie”, he said “You look as if you had swallowed a skeleton too big for you.

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Why do the Boers wear shoes?

To keep De Wet from defeat.

Mr. White, a colored man in Congress here, has just given his farewell speech on the future of the colored race. It is rather curious that the only colored man in Congress should be White.

AGB